



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

EO-193

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Section of Environmental Analysis

January 13, 2005

Mr. Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.
BNSF Railway Company
700 13th Street, NW
Suite 220
Washington, DC 20005-5915

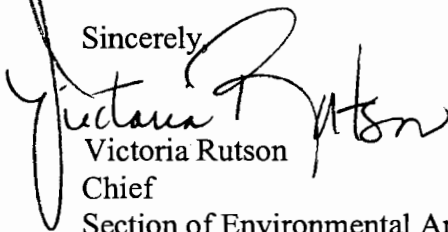
Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 401X), The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company - Abandonment Exemption - Polk County, Iowa

Dear Mr. Strickland:

By letter dated December 20, 2004, the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) informed BNSF that the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) has raised concerns with SEA regarding portions of rail line in this docket being transferred prior to the time that BNSF received abandonment authority from the Board. Within that same letter, SEA requested that BNSF provide certain detailed information by January 10, 2005, acknowledging exactly what has or has not occurred, and detailed steps taken by BNSF to comply with the ACHP 106 process. By letter dated January 10, 2005, BNSF requested an extension of two weeks (until January 24, 2005) in order to complete verification of information regarding line sales to the City of Des Moines and construction projects involving the Science Center of Iowa. SEA grants BNSF's request for an extension of time until January 24, 2005, to provide the requested information.

If you have any questions, please contact Kenneth Blodgett of my staff at (202) 565-1554.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis